

Sierakowski et al., 10/743937

July AF Amdt., p. 2

CLAIMS AMENDMENTS

1 (currently amended). A liner for a bed of a vehicle, which comprises a member having a substantially flat portion with an outer boundary that defines sides and with ribs that in a first part are arranged in a central area in an array extending along an axis, and in a second part have two arrays with the ribs extending obliquely with respect to the array of the first part and the axis, one of these two obliquely extending arrays on each side of the central area, with at least some of the ribs of the two obliquely extending arrays extending substantially to a portion of the outer boundary that is different from that to which the ribs of the array of the first part extend, wherein at least some of the obliquely extending ribs are arrayed in a plurality of banks, each bank having a plurality of ribs such that in cross section each such bank of the obliquely extending ribs includes two outer ribs, each outer rib of the bank having an outer portion that spans obliquely from a trough part of the liner into a crest member of the outer rib that it in part forms, and each outer rib of the bank having an inner portion that spans substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member of the outer rib that it in part forms, such that the obliquely spanning outer rib portions of the two outer ribs are on opposing outsides of the bank.

2 (previously presented). The liner of claim 1, wherein the substantially flat portion is a bottom for the liner in which:

Sierakowski et al., 10/743937

July AF Amdt., p. 3

the array of ribs in the first part goes from a front side of the liner bottom to an opposing rear side of the liner bottom, substantially to each respective boundary; and as to the second part, the two arrays with the obliquely extending ribs form a mirror image of one another with respect to the array of the ribs in the first part in the central area and a majority of the ribs in the arrays of the second part extend to side sides of the liner bottom.

3 (currently amended). The liner of claim 2, wherein the substantially flat portion further comprises at least one of: a front wall of the liner that is attached to the liner bottom, which wall has an array of ribs arranged in a first part in a central area in an array extending along a front wall axis, and two arrays of ribs arranged in a second part extending obliquely with respect to the array of the first part and the front wall axis, and a tailgate inside surface having an array of ribs arranged in a first part in a central area in an array extending along a tailgate axis, and two arrays of ribs arranged in a second part extending obliquely with respect to the array of the first part and the tailgate axis;

wherein:

the array of ribs in the first part of the at least one of the front wall and the tailgate inside surface extends to the boundary on a side adjacent the liner bottom so that these ribs of the at least one of the front wall and the tailgate inside surface line up with the array of ribs in the first part of the liner bottom; and

Sierakowski et al., 10/743937

July AF Amdt., p. 4

the two arrays of the second part of the at least one of the front wall and the tailgate inside surface form a mirror image of one another with respect to the array of the ribs in the first part in the central area of the at least one of the front wall and the tailgate inside surface.

4-6 (canceled).

7 (currently amended). The liner of claim ~~4~~, 1, wherein the two outer ribs of the bank have at least one intervening rib between them, the at least one intervening rib having opposing rib portions that span substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member thereof.

8-10 (canceled).

11 (currently amended). The liner of claim ~~8~~, 2, wherein the two outer ribs of the bank have at least one intervening rib between them, the at least one intervening rib having opposing rib portions that span substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member thereof.

12-14 (canceled).

15 (currently amended). The liner of claim ~~12~~, 3, wherein the two outer ribs of the bank have at least one intervening rib between them, the at least one intervening rib having opposing rib portions that span substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member thereof.

16 (canceled).

17 (currently amended). A liner for a bed of a vehicle, which comprises a member having a substantially flat portion with ribs that are arrayed in a plurality of banks, each bank having a

Sierakowski et al., 10/743937

July AF Amdt., p. 5

plurality of ribs such that in cross section each such bank of the ribs includes two outer ribs, each outer rib of the bank having an outer portion that spans obliquely from a trough part of the liner into a crest member of the outer rib that it in part forms, and each outer rib of the bank having an inner portion that spans substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member of the outer rib that it in part forms, such that ~~thus~~ the obliquely spanning outer rib portions of the two outer ribs are on opposing outsides of the bank.

18-19 (canceled).

20 (previously presented). The liner of claim 17, wherein the two outer ribs of the bank have at least one intervening rib between them, the at least one intervening rib having opposing rib portions that span substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member thereof.

21 (previously presented). A liner for a bed of a vehicle, which comprises a plastic vehicle bed liner with a member having a substantially flat portion with an outer boundary that defines sides and with ribs that consist essentially of three arrays per substantially flat portion, which arrays:

in a first part are arranged in a central area in an array extending along an axis, and

in a second part are arranged in two opposing arrays, each with the ribs extending obliquely with respect to the array of the first part and the axis, one of these two obliquely extending arrays on each side of the central area, with the ribs of the two obliquely extending arrays extending substantially to the outer boundary.

Sierakowski et al., 10/743937

July AF Amdt., p. 6

22 (previously presented). The liner of claim 21, wherein the substantially flat portion is a bottom for the liner in which:

the array of ribs in the first part goes from a front side of the liner bottom to an opposing rear side of the liner bottom, substantially to each respective boundary; and as to the second part, the two arrays with the obliquely extending ribs form a mirror image of one another with respect to the array of the ribs in the first part in the central area.

23 (currently amended). The liner of claim 22, wherein the substantially flat portion further comprises at least one of:

a front wall of the liner that is attached to the liner bottom, which wall has an array of ribs arranged in a first part in a central area in an array extending along a front wall axis, and two arrays of ribs arranged in a second part extending obliquely with respect to the array of the first part and the front wall axis, and a tailgate inside surface having an array of ribs arranged in a first part in a central area in an array extending along a tailgate axis, and two arrays of ribs arranged in a second part extending obliquely with respect to the array of the first part and the tailgate axis;

wherein:

the array of ribs in the first part of the at least one of the front wall and the tailgate inside surface extends to the boundary on a side adjacent the liner bottom so that these ribs of the at least one of the front wall and

Sierakowski et al., 10/743937

July AF Amdt., p. 7

the tailgate inside surface line up with the array of ribs in the first part of the liner bottom; and the two arrays of the second part of the at least one of the front wall and the tailgate inside surface form a mirror image of one another with respect to the array of the ribs in the first part in the central area of the at least one of the front wall and the tailgate inside surface.

24 (currently amended). The liner of claim 21, wherein at least some of the obliquely extending ribs are arrayed in a plurality of banks, each such bank having a plurality of ribs such that in cross section the bank of the obliquely extending ribs includes two outer ribs, each outer rib of the bank having an outer portion that spans obliquely from a trough part of the liner into a crest member of the outer rib that it in part forms, and each outer rib of the bank having an inner portion that spans substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member of the outer rib that it in part forms, such that ~~thus~~ the obliquely spanning outer rib portions of the two outer ribs are on opposing outsides of the bank.

25 (previously presented). The liner of claim 24, wherein the two outer ribs of the bank have at least one intervening rib between them, the at least one intervening rib having opposing rib portions that span substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member thereof.

26 (currently amended). The liner of claim 22, wherein at least some of the obliquely extending ribs are arrayed in a plurality of banks, each such bank having a plurality of ribs

Sierakowski et al., 10/743937

July AF Amdt., p. 8

such that in cross section the bank of the obliquely extending ribs includes two outer ribs, each outer rib of the bank having an outer portion that spans obliquely from a trough part of the liner into a crest member of the outer rib that it in part forms, and each outer rib of the bank having an inner portion that spans substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member of the outer rib that it in part forms, such that ~~thus~~ the obliquely spanning outer rib portions of the two outer ribs are on opposing outsides of the bank.

27 (previously presented). The liner of claim 26, wherein the two outer ribs of the bank have at least one intervening rib between them, the at least one intervening rib having opposing rib portions that span substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member thereof.

28 (currently amended). The liner of claim 23, wherein at least some of the obliquely extending ribs are arrayed in a plurality of banks, each such bank having a plurality of ribs such that in cross section the bank of the obliquely extending ribs includes two outer ribs, each outer rib of the bank having an outer portion that spans obliquely from a trough part of the liner into a crest member of the outer rib that it in part forms, and each outer rib of the bank having an inner portion that spans substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member of the outer rib that it in part forms, such that ~~thus~~ the obliquely spanning outer rib portions of the two outer ribs are on opposing outsides of the bank.

29 (previously presented). The liner of claim 28, wherein the two outer ribs of the bank have at least one intervening rib

Sierakowski et al., 10/743937

July AF Amdt., p. 9

between them, the at least one intervening rib having opposing rib portions that span substantially upright from the trough part of the liner into the crest member thereof.